

Students forming new association

By Heather Ibbotson

Continuing education students at Conestoga may have a stronger voice in student affairs with help from the newly-formed Continuing Education Student Association.

Conestoga currently serves between 26,000 and 30,000 continuing education students annually.

Nine interested students have formed the association under the tutelage of Marilyn Lambert, director of the Centre for Continuous Learning, and her administrative assistant, Frania Banks.

"This group is just full of ideas and are gun-ho to do so much," Banks said.

The students represent a cross-section of ages and interests which is typical of continuing education students, Banks said. "They range in age from mid-20s to mid-50s." She added that students preferred the term continuing education student because people don't attach proper respect to the label of part-time student.

To solicit interest in an organization, a questionnaire was included several months ago in an issue of the college's Centre for Continuous Learning (CCL) newsletter asking if students were interested in forming or being part of a student association.

Questionnaires were also included on learner feedback forms distributed at part-time student forums held at each campus every semester.

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Vandalism and thefts strike Doon campus

By Sandra Schuett

Spoke's editor and a security guard were two of several victims of a petty crime spree on the Doon campus the evening of July 2.

Spoke editor Heather Ibbotson had her wallet stolen, while security guard Janet Smith found her car had been scratched and smeared with a grease-like substance.

Another woman found her car disabled when she entered it about 9:45 p.m. and a fourth woman discovered a briefcase containing her wallet was stolen from her vehicle.

Spoke editor Ibbotson, 30, a fourth-semester journalism student, said she noticed her wallet was missing when she attempted to write a cheque at a Brantford store around 7 p.m. After searching her car, she drove back to the college and discovered her wallet had been turned in to the security office at 6:55 p.m. by a man attending continuing education classes at the college.

Janet Smith, a Conestoga security guard, said the man told her the wallet fell out of a newspaper he picked out of a recycling box just

inside Door #4 of the main building. Smith said the man did not want to leave his name.

Missing from the wallet was approximately \$18 in bills and coins. The thief left credit cards and various identification intact. "I'm thankful that just the cash was taken," Ibbotson said. "The hassles I would have had to go through to get all new identification would have been worse than losing \$18."

Ibbotson said she was unsure exactly where and when her wallet was taken. She remembered using it at a library photocopier earlier in the day and admits she could have left it behind, but said it seems unlikely.

Roberta Ellington, a library technician, who sits directly across from the copier, said that no one noticed a wallet there that day.

She added that a wallet left behind in the library would have been taken to the security office immediately.

Ibbotson said she thinks it is more likely that someone rifled through her purse, which was sitting at her desk in the Spoke office, as she

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Heather Ibbotson displays her wallet which was found in a recycling box.

(Photo by Sandra Schuett)

Waterloo student council to donate honorariums

By Troy Bridgeman

Council members from the Waterloo Student Association (WSA) have decided to donate their \$100, first-term honorariums to help offset a shortage of money in the budget.

WSA president Rob Nicol said there was an \$8,808.67 carry-over balance in the association bank account when the last council took office. He said the balance, when the new council took office, was

\$6,404.21.

Nicol said the new council was also obligated to pay outstanding bills from last year which totaled \$1,871.25. Part of that amount included \$457.17 spent on 11 plaques, which were given to nine council members and two faculty members in appreciation for their services over the 1991-92 term.

He said, as a result, the new council is starting off with \$4,275.71 less than the previous administration.

Nicol said of the approximately 1,000 students at the Waterloo campus, only 367 pay activity fees to the WSA. He said 306 full-time students in the English as a second language program (EASL) do not pay fees because their tuition is paid by the government and none of that money is transferred to the WSA. Despite that, he said these students cannot be denied access to WSA funded events or facilities.

The remaining 327 are part-time students who are also not obliged to

pay activity fees.

Mark Lorentz, WSA treasurer, said the Doon Student Association (DSA) turned down a WSA request for \$1,468 in assistance. He said the money was requested to help pay \$1,000 in outstanding athletic fees and offset additional costs for the college passports totalling \$468.

Lorentz said he was told at a June 17 meeting, the DSA "doesn't want to give one student association money because then they'll See WSA, Page 3



Catching rays

Ian Monahan, left, and David Ribble, both second-year woodworking students at Conestoga's Doon campus, take time out to enjoy the sun near the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre on July 5.

(Photo by Heather Ibbotson)

Provincial funding decisions send mixed message: Tibbits

By Troy Bridgeman

The Ontario Government is unrealistic in the way it is funding Conestoga College, said college president John Tibbits, July 9.

Tibbits was reacting to a speech by Kitchener MPP Will Ferguson during a press conference held at Conestoga's Doon campus, July 2.

Ferguson announced the Ontario government will be giving \$570,000 in "transition funding to the college."

Tibbits said the announcement sends mixed messages to the public and college administration.

He said a recent 20 per cent cut in funding to apprenticeship programs represents a \$1 million reduction to the college.

The result, he said, is an operating budget 3.3 per cent lower than it was last year.

Tibbits said the reduction, combined with an eight per cent increase in college enrolment and a contract proposal, which, "in reality" represents a 17 per cent increase in faculty expenses over three years, leaves him wondering how the province expects him to greet the \$570,000 grant.

"If someone announced they are going to cut your salary by \$50,000, then turned around and announced they are going to give you \$30,000, what would your reaction be?"

Tibbits said he does welcome the money.

It is to be used to "streamline current programs and review curriculum."

The "transition funding" will increase the operating budget by two per cent, but, said Tibbits, that still leaves the college with 1.3 per cent less than last year.

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Parties and people don't mix

By Sandra Schuett

It's a sad fact, but drunken people and house parties just don't mix. This is because people think that a few drinks gives them a licence to spill, damage, break or soil anything they can get their grubby little hands on.

At every party I have ever been to, something disastrous has happened to the dwelling or property, because some people just don't know when to quit.

I can remember a few of my own parties, how I stood pale-faced listening to the sound of breaking china, or running around frantically trying to catch falling cigarette ashes before they hit the carpet. These were real parties alright.

Despite all my efforts, I would wake up the next morning with the last of the slobbering idiots I had once called friends gone, only to find a bathtub full of beer and my cat with a new haircut.

In my teens I watched several of my friends put themselves through "house party hell," while their parents were out of town.

What started out as an intimate gathering for 20 pals, would always turn into an open house for undesirable door-crashers from who knows where.

Things would be destroyed, fights would break out, and then the police would arrive. Everyone would be escorted off the premises as neighbors peered from behind curtains, shaking their heads in parental disgust.

Some people think this type of behavior should be tolerated in the party spirit. After all, things are bound to get a little crazy when young people have too much to drink. However, this poses another problem.

Young people aren't the only ones who can ruin a good party with stupid antics and downright rude actions.

More often, it is so-called adults, with perhaps years of drinking experience, who can halt festivities. And we are not just talking about "lampshade on the head stuff" here.

More times than I care to remember, I have been in the company of middle-aged party-goers who lost control of their ability to reason. Broken beds, smashed bottles and drunk driving were the result.

I'm not saying that everyone who has a little too much vino now and again is a house wrecker, but it seems that a lot of people have no respect for other people or their property and this lack of respect is more obvious when they're intoxicated.

A couple of weekends ago a friend of mine had what began as a great party at his home. I saw people whom I thought I knew turn into raving, raging bulls, wreaking havoc on my friend's belongings. It could have been worse, but what did happen ruined the prospect of future get-togethers and caused bitterness between those involved.

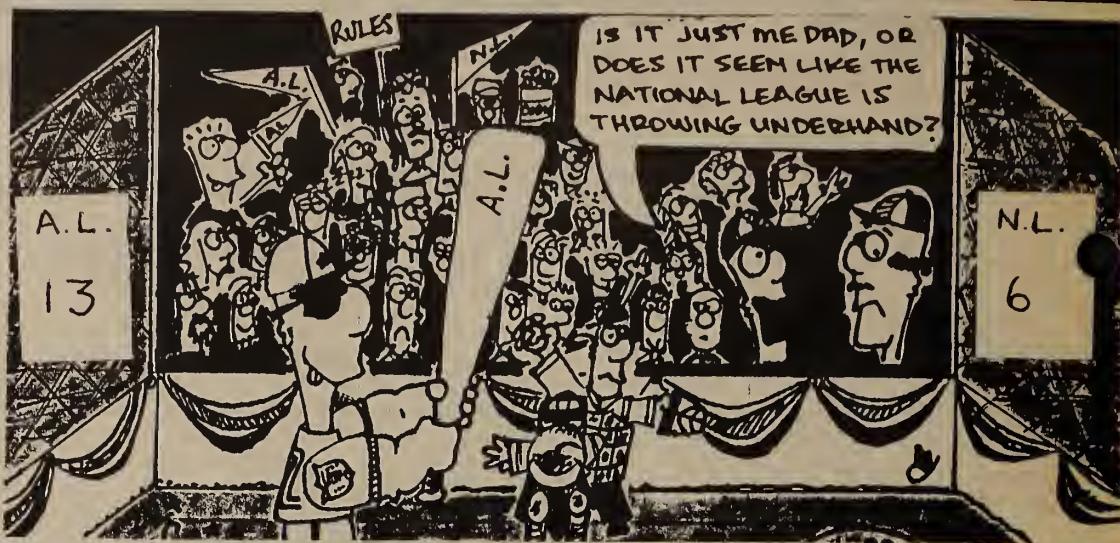
Isn't the whole point of parties to have fun? It is not fun to be a host or hostess and have your home damaged and friendships broken.

Likewise, it is not fun to be at a party and watch friends hurt each other and themselves.

Letters to the editor

Spoke welcomes all letters to the editor. If you have a beef, or an opinion, please send it in. Spoke reserves the right to edit letters to fit space, and to remove any libellous statements. Your letter must be signed, and include your program and year for verification. Send letters to the Spoke office, room 4B15, Doon campus.

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OPINION**Justice for Jacob?****Women should be able to go "top-free"**

By Cara-Mae Hackett

Gwen Jacob, women's rights crusader, called for women to bare their breasts July 17 and 18 as a protest of her recent appeal being denied.

Jacob, 20, a University of Guelph student, was fined \$75 for baring her breasts in public on a hot day in July 1991. Jacob hopes to have many top-free women publicly supporting her efforts.

In Albany, New York, the court of appeals unanimously agreed that charges against two women, who bared their breasts in public, be dropped. Canada should take the hint.

Jacob has said that female breasts are not "inherently sexual" and female breasts are no more sexual than male breasts.

The people who disagree with Jacob are those who are uncomfortable with public breast-feeding and are ashamed of their bodies. Some also fear the moral fibre of society is decaying.

It appears the female breast is only acceptable when used to sell lingerie and cars.

Has the female body been so exploited and "raped" by the commercialism of today's society that viewing any part of it non-sexually is taboo? If so, it proves how twisted society is.

Justice for Jacob?**Laws should be applied to both sexes**

By Troy Bridgeman

"Breasts are not inherently sexual." That is the opinion of "top-free" activist Gwen Jacob.

She suggests that there is a campaign by men to exploit women's breasts for sexual purposes. Women have submitted to this oppression.

Many disagree with her theory, including anthropologist

Desmond Morris, author of *The Naked Ape* and *Body Watching*. His studies conclude that the shape of women's breasts is unique to our species. He said the shape is impractical for breast feeding, which leads him to believe they evolved specifically for sexual signalling and stimulation.

We, as a species, recognize anatomical differences between the sexes and make efforts to conceal them from each other when not intimately involved.

Some women may dispute Morris's findings. They may ask, What could a man know about a woman's breast? They may dismiss his theories as patriarchal propaganda for the bosom conspiracy they believe all men are involved in.

It's no surprise that the opinion of men carries little clout in feminist enclaves. The battle of the sexes has been waged since time immemorial and women feel it's time men got a taste of their own medicine.

Many men recognize mistakes of the past. They resent being lumped in the same category as sexists;

Men are allowed to go shirtless in public and it is discriminatory to prevent women from doing the same.

Men and women are equal, but physically different, and it is unfair to have different rules for each, just as it is to discriminate against someone of another color or religion.

If a woman wishes to go "top-free" and enjoy the sun on her body, as many men do, so be it. It is not obscene, or overtly sexual and anyone who feels differently should take a long, hard look at themselves.

Society has to change its outlook. Men cannot control the actions of women because of their potentially dangerous attitudes about what is sexual.

Who gave others the right to define what parts of the body are sexual?

Some people are turned on by the caressing of their ears. Does that mean everyone should wear earmuffs for their own protection?

The argument that top-free women will be exploiting themselves and are more likely targets for rape is nonsense. Women do not ask to be violated and do not provoke sexual assault.

Jacob has said she does not believe top-free women will be a threat to society or to themselves.

Jacob is not out to exploit women or to taint society. She fights for the rights of all women to be able to bare their breasts if they want to.

as if all people with testicles were from the same philosophical group.

Jacob spoke to students at Conestoga College's Doon campus last March. She appeared well-versed in legal procedure, level-headed and educated. Her only negative aspect was the contempt she showed for men and even for women who didn't embrace her anti-paternalistic platform.

It is important to be active in the process of positive change. The issue isn't whether women should go "top-free", but whether it should be illegal for them to do so. From an equality angle, there should be no laws that discriminate against a specific gender. Many men who go "top-free" are considerably more offensive than a 20-year-old female university student.

Guelph provincial court judge Bruce Payne disallowed Jacob's June 26 appeal, after she was convicted of walking "top-free" through the streets of Guelph. He felt he interpreted the law to uphold the moral consensus of the community.

He is not the only one who considers public "top-free" displays unacceptable. A large percentage of those opposed are women.

Using laws to enforce victimless rules of morality makes a mockery of the judicial process. We, as a society, must keep an open mind when examining the equality of our legislation. We must balance sexual differences in a relative way. It is important that Jacob and her supporters do not let hatred of men corrupt their cause.

Continuing education students seek a stronger voice

Continued from Page 1

Sixty students who replied to the questionnaires were telephoned by Lambert and Banks.

Twelve students attended an information session April 29 at the Doon campus to discuss student concerns and discover whether they were interested in forming an association, Banks said.

She said student concerns were largely issue-oriented, including the desire for more input in the structuring of courses and greater interaction with other students and with college administration.

The students' biggest concern, said Banks, was whether employ-

ers respected their certificates.

Student representative Carolynne Delarosbil has completed several continuing education courses in the computer literacy and word processing field and said she wants employers made aware of their value.

She said the association also wants to provide a link between continuing education students, college administration and employers.

The group has met twice since April to discuss the association's name, mandate and organization.

With nine students attending the May and June meetings, Banks said it is a little premature to start an

official voting process.

She said the students agreed to review the association's goals and mandate in six months. This would provide time to explore how to form an association in a democratic manner, possibly by including a nomination form in a future CCL newsletter, she said.

For now, the association has no formal officers, other than Banks, who has been appointed co-ordinator. "We want to help them with guidance and input but we want them to make it (the association) work," she said.

Conestoga President John Tibbits addressed the group in May about

the college's long-range planning and fund-raising campaign.

After, students decided to institute a voluntary \$5 fee on continuing education courses of 20 or more hours beginning in September. Continuing education students will receive information and updates on the association's activities through the CCL newsletter, Banks said.

Five meetings are planned for the 1992-93 school year. The next meeting, scheduled for Sept. 30 at the Doon campus, will be a "get to know us" night, Banks said. "Hopefully interest will snowball, so when the time comes for the six-month review, decisions can be

made regarding how the association will be organized."

No additional fees to fund operations of the association have been considered. "Fees have never come up in discussion," Banks said. "The college is trying to do something for the continuing education student and in so doing we are not looking for any extra funds."

As this is a new venture, Banks said she does not expect to see hundreds of people become interested overnight. "Some people just want to learn and go home," she said.

So far, Banks said she has been pleased and surprised by the enthusiasm and ideas of students.

\$5 voluntary fee imposed

By Heather Ibbotson

Contributions made through a \$5 voluntary fee on continuing education courses will boost Conestoga's fund-raising drive by an estimated \$650,000 over the next five years.

The fee was agreed upon at the May meeting of the newly-formed Continuing Education Student Association (CESA).

"It was a unanimous decision," said Carolynne Delarosbil, one of the nine CESA representatives.

All continuing education courses of a duration of 20 or more hours will be subject to the fee, beginning in September. Children's and teenager's courses, as well as field practicums, will be exempt.

Students will be informed of the fee in the fall Continuing Education calendar.

Janeen Hoover, supervisor of part-time registration and systems, said if students do not wish to contribute to the campaign, they may request a refund by calling the Registrar's Office and providing their name, address and student

identification number.

"We want to do what we can to not make it inconvenient for the learner," Hoover said.

Students who contribute will receive a receipt for income tax purposes. Hoover said that continuing education students who enrol in more than one course through the year, and who contribute to the campaign more than once, will receive a tax receipt for the total amount of their donation.

Francia Banks, who is the administrative assistant to the director of the Centre for Continuous Learning and co-ordinator of CESA, said, "We don't anticipate people will object to the fee because the students at the meeting felt \$5 was not a lot of money."

"We anticipate the majority of people will want to give that \$5 and we won't have to give a lot of refunds."

Banks added that one CESA representative asked how anyone could object to the \$5 fee when people have to pay nearly \$7 for a pack of cigarettes.



Francia Banks, co-ordinator of the Continuing Education Students Association, displays some of the information materials available for continuing education students.

(Photo by Heather Ibbotson)

Cars damaged at Doon campus despite night patrols

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worked in a photo lab down the hall.

Ibbotson's incident was the first of what security guard Smith called a "strange night."

Smith said at about 9:45 p.m. a woman reported her car had been struck by another vehicle and

wouldn't start. Police were called and it was discovered that the car had only been bumped. It wouldn't start because battery cables had been disconnected in what Smith described as a likely "prank."

Shortly after, a woman reported her briefcase with her wallet inside stolen from her locked car.

The final occurrence took place near Door #4, where two vehicles, including Smith's, were smeared with a grease-like substance.

The next day Smith discovered her car's passenger's side had been scratched the length of the vehicle with a key.

Smith said some area youngsters

who hang around the campus know the security people and their cars.

Earlier in the evening another guard stopped a group of four 16- or 17-year-olds near parking Lot #1 by the storage shed and asked them to leave the property. Smith said she thinks they might have had

something to do with the incidents on campus.

She said there is a guard on foot patrol all night, and she usually takes a drive around the campus several times during the evening.

She advises people never to leave belongings unattended and to let security know if they see anything suspicious.

WSA tightens budget

Continued from Page 1

have to do it for all of them."

Kim Arnold, a DSA administrator, said they didn't turn down the WSA request.

She said, "we made some suggestions on how they could change their budget and they're supposed to come back to us at a future DSA meeting."

Anita Arnold, former DSA vice-president of administration, said, "It's really unfair that they (WSA) don't get that money" from the EASL students.

"As far as we know," said Kim Arnold, "every full-time student at Doon pays activity fees."

The seven WSA council members would each receive \$100 for their first term.

Nicol said he hopes they will not have to donate their next term's honorariums.

Council members have been at-

tempting to curb costs as much as possible.

"Last year the lounge was trashed," said Nicol, who along with other student council members re-painted the walls and made repairs.

They are hoping to absorb costs by tightening spending and by promoting successful student association activities.

Despite spending \$1,000 more on frosh-week activities than last year, Nicol said they are "trying to run it (the WSA) a little bit more like a business this year."

He said they are making their own frosh kits and are looking for donations of money and supplies.

Nicol said they have been working hard and even though he has no summer classes he has been working at the college every school day since the beginning of the summer semester.

Letters to the editor

Course costs mislead

I am a first-semester Journalism student who started the program in May instead of having to wait until January 1993, which I was told would be more "realistic," given the number of applications. I had to make a spur-of-the-moment decision and, having just received my income tax refund, was able to afford the tuition fee.

Nowhere in the course litera-

ture did I see mention of extra expenses. I realize that textbooks are extra, and this is acceptable, as it is standard practice. However, I must protest vigorously the high cost of the photography course. The first day in photo class I was shocked when it was revealed we would have the added expense of purchasing a camera, photo paper, film, a developing tank, flash, etc.

Better administration needed too?

Human resources director,

Colin MacGregor is quite welcome to his opinion on the calibre of faculty (Spoke July 6, 1992).

He may even be right in that the new wage structure "...may demand a 'much higher-calibre faculty,'" although he does not suggest under what conditions the threatened faculty free agent

Trying to finance an education today is somewhat challenging, with cutbacks and the lack of jobs for ordinary citizens, let alone students.

I understand colleges used to supply this type of equipment but stopped due to somewhat sticky-fingered people. Now, I don't blame colleges and universities for not risking the loss of valuable equipment but, surely some solution can be found.

If school authorities feel a solution is untenable, then I would ask only one thing — please try and be sure students accepted into the first semester have plenty of time to prepare themselves for those little "extra expenses" that are not mentioned in the school calendar.

Gary Wiebe,

first-semester journalism

Rae Murphy,
faculty member

Off-campus Features

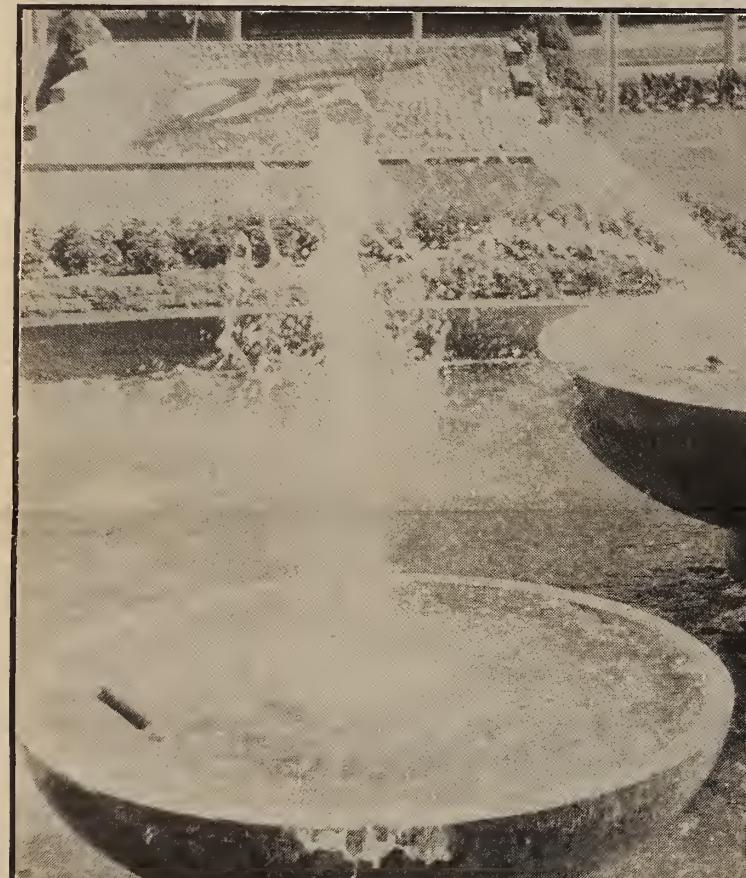
Floral roots run deep at Rockway Gardens

By Sandra Schuett

As Rockway Gardens approaches its 60th anniversary, it can look back with pride on six decades of providing beauty to Kitchener.

With its cascading waterfalls and manicured flower beds, Rockway has been a natural magnet for visitors and horticulturists alike for many years. On an average Saturday there is hardly room to move among couples posing for wedding photographs and those just stopping to smell the roses.

Rockway Gardens is a long, vertical slice of land divided into three column-like strips by King and Charles streets and Floral Crescent.



A view of the waterfall that looks onto King Street at Rockway Gardens. It sits in front of the flower bed displaying Conestoga's anniversary logo.

(Photo by Sandra Schuett)

The number of bungee cables used is determined by the jumper's weight.

The platform was then raised by a crane to a height of 75 metres.

At the apex of our journey, our jumpmaster said, "No matter what you're thinking, when I tell you to jump, just jump."

They were not words of wisdom, but at the time they were very effective.

The jumpmaster then slid back a safety bar — the only thing that kept us from falling out on the ride up, and said the magic words — "three, two, one, bungee."

Pittman jumped on the first trip and I jumped on the second.

Even with all the safety features, including a giant air bag below, there was still one thing holding me back — my better judgment.

wet and dry moraines. All the limestone rockery was placed in geographical formations depicting Canadian regions such as the eastern coastline.

City engineering staff developed the main garden layout, while C.H. Janzen, of the horticultural society, directed the planting and artistic designing.

Since its inception, Rockway has added several features to the landscape. In 1961 the large pool was redone with "colorscope" lighting. In 1964 the J.M. Schneider family donated the Memorial fountain, with its color-changing water display, in honor of the company's founder. And in 1967, the "Court of Flags" was installed behind the main carpet bed.

Today, Rockway is a virtual plethora of trees, plants and flowers, adhering to the society's slogan — "community beauty is a civic duty."

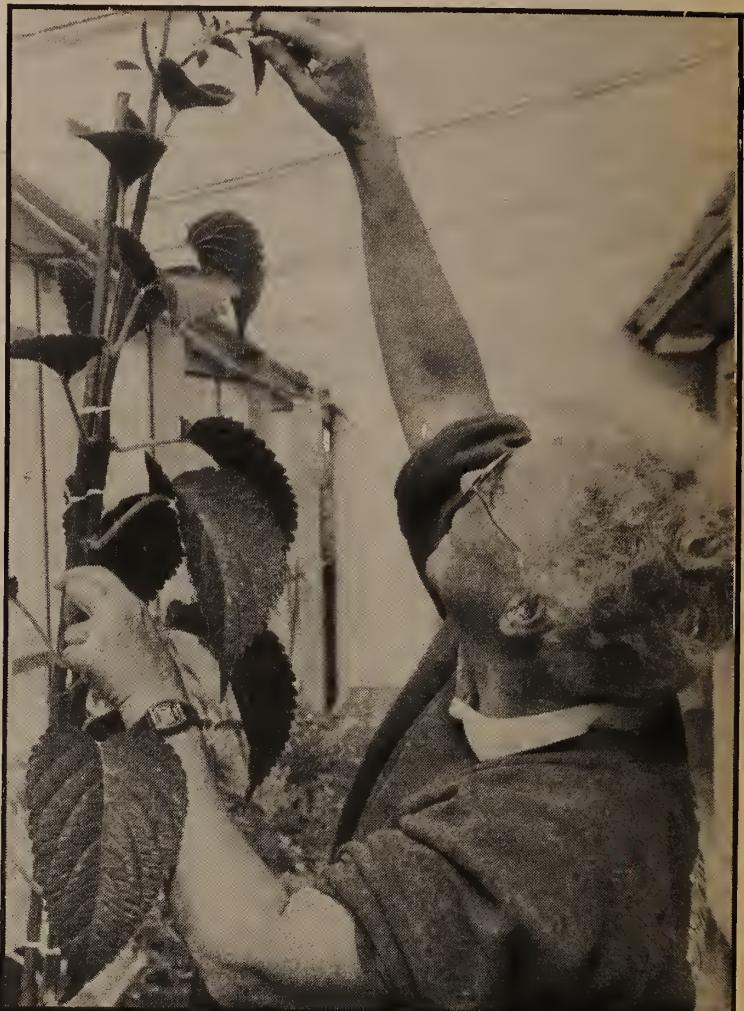
Marianne Weiler, who has supervised the gardens for 10 years, said her employment there is a "strange quirk of fate." She said that when she was a child she would often visit Rockway and think how wonderful it would be to work there.

Those childhood dreams became a reality for Weiler after 15 years of teaching high school geography and physical education in Seaford. Upon returning from a one-year sabbatical, she decided to give up teaching and pursue "something that I had always enjoyed."

Weiler attended the Kitchener-Waterloo School of Horticulture, which was once affiliated with Conestoga College, and went on to receive a horticultural diploma from the University of Guelph.

"It's hard physical labor," Weiler said. But added she also enjoys the peace and tranquility caring for the grounds allows her.

Rockway is more than just a pretty flower garden. The society holds annual garden competitions and is home to the Master Gardener program, which promotes horticulture through students studying at the University of Guelph.



Rockway supervisor Marianne Weiler tends to plants in the greenhouse.

(Photo by Sandra Schuett)

Students give lectures and teach workshops on a voluntary basis.

Weiler, who works at Rockway all year, said there are usually four full-time seasonal employees.

She said in the winter she gets to do the things she can never find time for during the summer. She answers inquiries from people with horticultural questions, starts seeds in the greenhouse and completes paperwork. "In the summer I always say I'll wait for a rainy day to do these things," she said. "But it never comes."

Though Rockway is a gardener's delight, there are things that need

improvement.

Weiler said renovations will begin in the near future. Some trees will be planted and fountains will be restored because of their "terrible state."

People can pay for trees, but Rockway decides on what type of tree is purchased and where it will be planted.

A piece from the society's written history says, "thus wasted land was transformed into living gardens for the inspiration of the public."

With these gardens, Rockway is keeping true to its civic duty.

Bungee Jumping

Watch out for that first big step

By Neil Wells

Bungee jumping is a sport for the strong-willed and the strong-stomached, said Shawn Pittman, a mechanical engineering student at Conestoga College.

Pittman and I tried the sport of bungee jumping on June 21, before the operation was shut down by the Ontario government because of safety concerns.

The sport originated in New Zealand more than 50 years ago. Aborigines jumped from platforms with a vine tied to their ankles as a rite of passage into adulthood.

Now jumping is a little safer. Bungee cables, which are rubber fibres covered with nylon, were wrapped in bundles and attached to our full-body harness. This was attached to the bottom of a platform.

The ride to the top of the crane, stepping to the edge of the platform and convincing myself to fall forward were three of the hardest things I have ever done.

Bungee jumping is "the fastest growing sport in North America," said Scott Smith, owner of Extreme Bungee, set up at Sportsworld.

Conquering fear has always been paramount in the human mind according to psychiatrists.

In bungee jumping, overcoming fear is a big factor.

Bungee jumping costs \$79 for the first jump and \$59 for each subsequent jump.

If you want to jump twice in one day the second jump costs \$39.

Pending clearance from the Ontario government, jumping is available at Sportsworld until September.



Conestoga continuous learning student Shawn Pittman gets harnessed for a jump.

(Photo by Neil Wells)

Off-campus Features

Children are the ultimate victims of domestic violence

By Cara-Mae Hackett

Three children cower in the bedroom as the angry voices of their parents rise. They pray things will stay under control.

They do not.

This is a typical situation of family violence.

Incidents like this are familiar to 18-year-old Vanessa of Waterloo. She said she has been physically and mentally abused by her stepfather since she was seven.

"I've been through the same situation," Vanessa said.

The only child knows the family that was briefly mentioned above and said she was shocked.

Vanessa said she would never have thought that her friend was in a situation similar to her own.

She describes domestic violence as "the pits," especially when it involves the police.

"It (assault) has to happen right in front of (police officers) before anything can be done about it," Vanessa said.

"I don't think anything will save that family," she said. "The best thing for everyone would be to split up."

The family is working on that. The main reason the parents are still together is financial. Neither has enough money to pay the first and last month's rent at a new place.

Lynda Charlebois, a Conestoga College graduate of the social services program, is a counsellor at Mary's Place, in Kitchener.

In the past, Mary's Place has been a hostel for women.

Now, more support is offered to abuse victims. The women and children are allowed to stay for a maximum of three months according to their policy binder, said Charlebois. "But we certainly don't enforce it," she added.

Charlebois said some common threads in abuse situations are the facts that the women have been with the men for a number of years and the "power-control thing." Men try to take power by abusing

their partner, said Charlebois. "A woman is usually abused 35 times before she calls the police."

Victim Services, a department of the Waterloo Regional police, does not have any specific statistics on domestic violence, said counsellor Diane Martin.

There are no figures available on who lays charges or how many charges are followed by convictions.

The police department could not comment on the number of domestic disputes answered by police in the region either.

Martin said, "(In most cases) charges are laid by police when a woman is assaulted by her partner."

A "retaliation charge" is usually made by the man, said Martin. Retaliation charges are generally not taken to court. Martin said she believes they are laid simply to get back at the woman for phoning the police or for seeking assistance elsewhere.

Martin said she believes there are statistics that specifically indicate the number of incidents of domestic violence in Waterloo Region, but thinks her superior, who is on vacation, has them.

The people who are hurt most in this type of situation are the children.

Mary's Place, in Kitchener, can be reached at 744-0120.

Mercedes Corporation Inc. receives Chamber of Commerce Award

By Garry Erb

The Elmira and Woolwich Chamber of Commerce awarded their outstanding Business Achievement Award to the Mercedes Corporation Inc., of St Jacobs, for its community involvement.

A report by the Chamber of Commerce stated that the company either directly or indirectly makes charitable donations on a regular basis to local community and church organizations such as hospitals, universities, and local health centres. The company also has people who are involved, or have been involved, on local boards of St. Mary's Hospital, Kitchener-Waterloo Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Mennonite Economic Development Associates, Independent Living Centre, Conrad Grebel

College and the Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce.

Ross Shantz, president of Mercedes Corporation Inc., said his company is involved in real estate and has ownership in many other companies such as the Conestoga Inn, the Jakobstettel Guest house, Ausable Family Services Inc., Chateau Nursing Homes Inc., Mercare Homes Inc., St. Jacobs Day Care Inc., and St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre Inc.

It has also assisted in the founding of St. Jacobs Retail Association, St. Jacobs Community Association, a Home Birthing Association and the Kitchener Waterloo Community Health Centre. As of Jan. 1, 1992, Mercedes Corporation Inc. employed 199 full-time workers and 251 part-time workers. Their involvement in other companies in-

creases this number to 1,508 full and part-time workers within the Kitchener-Waterloo region, Shantz said.

The company was incorporated in the 1960s but remained low-key until the mid-'70s when the Shantz brothers, Ross and Milo, sold Hybrid Turkeys, the third largest turkey breeding company in the world to a subsidiary of British Petroleum Inc.

Mercedes Corporation Inc. purchased land in St. Jacobs shortly after Hybrid Turkeys Inc. was sold.

Mercedes now owns Countryside Furniture, the Farmer's Market, the St. Jacobs Tourism Office, Benjamin's Restaurant and Inn, the Mill Race Café and Riverworks Café, as well as six nursing homes across Ontario, he said.

Shantz said, "I take a keen interest

in the development of third world countries." He said his company owns a resort in Jamaica run by Jamaicans.

At home, Mercedes Corporation is working on the development of a new manufacturer's factory outlet mall to be located on the northern edge of Waterloo, next to the Farmer's Market.

Preliminary plans show a man-made lake, with the potential of a park, to be located beside the new mall.

CNR tracks running through the property may make it possible to develop a steam-engine run between St. Jacobs and the new mall, Shantz said. "This is quite tentative," he added.

The plans indicate on and off ramps to be built, providing accessibility to the new mall from the

bypass.

Shantz said he didn't know when these access ramps would be installed.

With plans for the factory outlet mall in front of them, the Mercedes Corporation Inc. is weathering the economic storm.

Shantz attributes this to the company's diversification.

Shantz also attributes the company's success to the unique internal structure, set up in the early '80s.

It was then the corporation invited employees to become shareholders and 70 employees took advantage of the offer, he said.

"This benefits the company and also the employees," Shantz said.

"We have had good publicity over the years, which has given us an edge," Shantz said.

Popular secretary transferred

By Troy Bridgeman

After 15 years at Conestoga College's Doon campus, Sherley Loucks, secretary to the dean of the School of Access and Preparatory Studies, packed the last of her effects July 8 and moved to the Waterloo campus.

She moved along with Sharon Kalbfleisch, the dean, and Pat Piper, secretary for the English as a second language program.

"In an effort to consolidate the management team we're moving to Waterloo," Loucks said.

Loucks was born Sherley Bisch on the American army base Roblecito in Venezuela.

In 1972, at age 17, she attended Alma College, an all-girls school in St. Thomas Ont., where she completed Grade 10 and 11. In 1974 she completed Grade 12 in Quito, Ecuador.

She returned to Canada in 1975 and attended Lougheed Business College in Kitchener. While living in Kitchener, she met Keith Loucks, an office supervisor with Loomis Courier of Kitchener, whom she married in 1982.

Loucks began as a typist for the applied arts division at Conestoga's Doon campus in June, 1977. She then became administrative assistant for applied

arts, working with associate director Mary Hofstetter.

In 1986, while on maternity leave with her son Aaron, Loucks was laid off from the college.

She returned in 1987 as secretary to Wendy Oliver, director of continuing education. After two years, she took a position working for Sharon Kalbfleisch in what was, until May 1991, the School of Academic Support, Applied Arts and Preparatory Studies.

Loucks has also taught part time for the journalism department.

"She's always willing to help," said her colleague Tina Tschanz, assistant to Conestoga's vice-president of human resources. "She'll be an asset to Waterloo and we'll miss her."

Loucks said, "The part that will affect me the most is leaving the people and the atmosphere at the main campus," where co-workers refer to her as "Miss Congeniality."

"I'm looking forward to working with a new group of people at Waterloo," she said. "It'll take time to adjust to a smaller campus and the driving, because I live close to Doon and I know where everything is there."

Loucks said despite the move she will always stay in touch with her friends at Doon.



Sherley Loucks from the School of Access and Preparatory Studies.

(Photo by Troy Bridgeman)

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Course targets 'older' unemployed

By Gary Erb

The Stratford campus is doing something to help unemployed people receive the skills they need to find jobs.

The computer training for the unemployed course is designed to assist people that have been working for a number of years and suddenly find themselves unemployed. Many older people with limited educations need to start over after losing their jobs.

The computer training for the unemployed course, is designed to give these people the basic knowledge they need to enter the work force, said John Anderson, senior training consultant of contract training services.

Anderson said the course is subsidized through the federal government's Huron Industrial Training Advisory Committee. Screening is done by the Huron Region Canada Employment Centre.

Conestoga is co-operating with the Huron Board of Education by renting their facility in the Goderich high school, and supplying a college instructor to run the course.

"We will be working with the Perth Industrial Advisory Committee to run a similar course, in September, in Stratford," said Anderson.

"We will be targeting former workers of Kroehler Furniture Ltd.," Anderson said. He said these workers are older people who have



From left, Tom Bons, Anne Palmby and John Anderson, of academic upgrading, take a break outside Conestoga's Stratford campus.

(Photo by Garry Erb)

been working at the same job for 20 years, with few skills. They need to upgrade themselves if they are to re-enter the workforce.

Anderson said the plan will offer unemployed workers academic upgrading, life skills, computer training, blue print reading, basic quality control and some customer service.

Discussions were held with the Industrial Adjustment Committee,

which reviewed the program and said the plan met its requirements, Anderson said.

"We are always out there talking to these groups and finding out what it is they need. We do not try to take our program and feed it to them — rather we find out what they need and we build it for them."

"I think this is a significant effort on the college's part," Anderson said.

Parking may still pose problem despite construction of new lot

By Nell Wells

Even with additional parking spots, Conestoga College students at the Doon campus could still face a parking crisis.

The new parking lot will help, but not solve, the parking problems that have plagued Conestoga students since last year.

According to Dave Putt, director of physical resources at Doon, Lot #5, which is the lot beside the athletic complex, is being expanded towards Highway 401.

There will be approximately 260 additional parking spots for students returning to Conestoga in September.

Putt said construction began on June 15, and it will be completed sometime in July.

More parking spots will be needed to alleviate problems, because of an estimated enrolment increase of 24 per cent.

He said only half of the expected 840 students will need to be accommodated and one spot for every two students is "high in the system."

He said that the expansion will provide 260 parking spots. This will make approximately 550 park-

ing spots available once Lot #2 is reopened following construction of the Student-Client Services Centre.

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities funded the lot, among other resource projects, with a \$400,000 grant.

Putt said, under the grant program, projects such as repairs and construction are completed first. Cost reports are sent to the ministry, which then reimburses the college.

He said that some colleges wait for approval before starting construction, which sometimes results in a longer wait for funds.

Putt said that Conestoga has been using the system for years and as long as it follows the rules there should be no problem getting funds.

Funds are distributed to colleges in Ontario, based on the size of the student population.

In addition to the new parking lot and general repairs around the college, Putt said his department is also planning to refit some of the roofs.

A total of \$80,000 has been allocated to repair and replace roofs at the Doon, Waterloo and Guelph campuses this summer.



Movin' On

Daryl Hunzinger and John Berdun, employees of Clifford Richardson Movers, pack the last of the furniture and belongings of the School of Access and Preparatory Studies, now housed at the Waterloo campus.

(Photo by Troy Bridgeman)

Big plans, few tenants for mall near Doon

By Cara-Mae Hackett

West Kitchener Centre, the plaza located at the corner of Highway 401 and Homer Watson Boulevard, across from the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre, will become a prestigious, mixed-use commercial and recreational park according to an information package from the mall's leasing company Swisscan Properties.

Swisscan Properties, and its construction arm, Normbau 2000, make up Swisscan Developments Inc. in Brampton.

The West Kitchener Centre is "approximately 50 per cent leased," said Swisscan leasing manager Martha Ross.

An article in the Nov. 4, 1991, issue of Spoke entitled "Commercial centre being built beside Doon campus" stated that a convenience store and gas bar would be ready for business around December 1991, according to former leasing manager Walter Abicht, who was replaced by Ross in February 1992.

Ross said, "The gas bar should be in operation by October (1992) as will the convenience store."

Two acres of land behind the centre have been sold to a budget hotel that will rent rooms to Conestoga College students from September to April. The remainder of the year the hotel will rent to tourists.

Construction of the 120-room hotel will probably begin in the fall of 1992, Ross said. Each room will be equipped with a kitchenette and will be rented to two students, so that more students can find accommodations near Doon campus.

A small food franchise that serves fresh fruits and healthy foods, as opposed to a fast-food outlet, is wanted in the centre to cater to the needs of Conestoga students, Ross said. She added that any students interested in starting a small restaurant should keep leasing at the centre in mind.

An information package about the centre calls its location, "Kitchener's only commercial window onto Highway 401." It also

states the stretch of Homer Watson Boulevard in front of the centre has an average daily traffic flow of 20,128 vehicles, making its location perfect for business.

The centre has been mapped out in five phases according to the information package.

Phase one entails the construction of a gas bar, convenience store, a strip plaza, which already contains a Baker's Dozen Donut shop, with 11,934 sq. ft. of space to be leased.

Phase two is another strip plaza, with 23,066 sq. ft. of total leasable space.

Phase three is the budget hotel, to be operated as a franchise of a major chain, which is said to include "meeting and conference facilities" and a recreational complex.

The package states the concept of the complex "cannot be divulged at this time."

Phases four and five will develop twin office towers. The "prestige office space is presently under design," according to the package.

Baker's Dozen Donuts first shop to open in mall across from Doon campus

By John L. Tachauer
(Special to Spoke)

One of the newest doughnut shops in Kitchener has opened its doors near Conestoga College's Doon campus.

Business is "just what I expected," said proprietor John Hey. "We went to a lot of other doughnut shops to see how well they were doing and where the good sites were."

The site he chose is at the corner of Homer Watson Boulevard and New Dundee Road. The franchise is Baker's Dozen Donuts.

"When I first discovered this place and I looked at the (lease) sign, I liked it right away," Hey said.

The biggest hurdle Hey had to leap over to get the franchise was coming up with the money to pay for it. "I had to pay the money up front. It was very tough."

"It's like a turn-key operation," he

added. "It's like stepping into a new car. All you do is turn the key. The franchise supplies the store with everything. Everything is custom made for all the stores."

A grand opening for the doughnut shop has been planned, but no date has yet been set. "We might wait until school opens up again (in September) but there definitely will be specials for the grand opening."

One possible special is a coffee and a doughnut for 99 cents.

Currently, Baker's Dozen Donuts has two special club cards.

With one, a customer receives two free coffees after purchasing 11. With the Golden Club card, seniors 60 years and older can get discounts on purchases. Both cards are valid only at the Homer Watson-New Dundee shop.

Before operating the doughnut shop, Hey ran a catering business.

"You've got the rain, the snow, the slush and the heat, and I'm get-

ting older," he commented on his previous job. "Sometimes it's hard to find a good replacement now in the catering business. (The doughnut business) will be a lot easier because this is a family operation. If anything happens to me or to my wife, we'll be covering each other."

Hey expects business to perk up when the fall semester begins at Conestoga. He said he hopes his business is a good long-term investment.

Conestoga's history piles up

By Heather Ibbotson

Twenty-five years can be viewed in many ways. In human terms it is a generation. In automotive terms it is the age of a classic car. In medical terms it has been the length of time since Dr. Christiaan Barnard carried out the first successful heart transplant.

For Conestoga College, 25 years represents everything.

And surprisingly, the space needed to "package" 25 years of history is relatively small — only several square metres.

The "package" containing Conestoga's history is, for now, a partitioned corner of a quiet-study room in the Doon campus Learning Resource Centre.

This room contains boxes full of old college yearbooks, calendars, photographs, letters, documents and nearly 20 years worth of newspaper clippings.

Approximately 12 boxes full of archival material were transferred from storage in the alumni affairs office in early January to the Learning Resource Centre to serve as research material for the college's 25th-anniversary book which is to be published this fall.

John MacKenzie, vice-president of student development and human resources, examines historic college materials.

(Photo by Heather Ibbotson)

resources, was responsible for finding research material for the students and staff working on the book. Now he is in charge of finding a new home for the boxes containing Conestoga's history.

Initially, MacKenzie sought a place where students could work with the materials. He said there was not a lot of empty room in the alumni office nor was there any appropriate space in various storage areas in the technology wing.

As a result, the material was placed temporarily in the Learning Resource Centre.

"My commitment to the library was that once the project was completed we would remove the materials from there," MacKenzie said.

The storage and placement of the historic material remains uncertain. As yet, the material has not been removed from the quiet-study room and MacKenzie said it would be "unfair" to say the Learning Resource Centre has any responsibility for the material.

MacKenzie said the material will likely be put back into boxes and stored.

Although some of the older newspaper clippings are becoming yellow and brittle with age, there has not been any consideration given to archival preservation methods such

as using acid-free boxes, dividers or file folders. MacKenzie said proper storage and restoration would be the ideal. "I think there is a need for it."

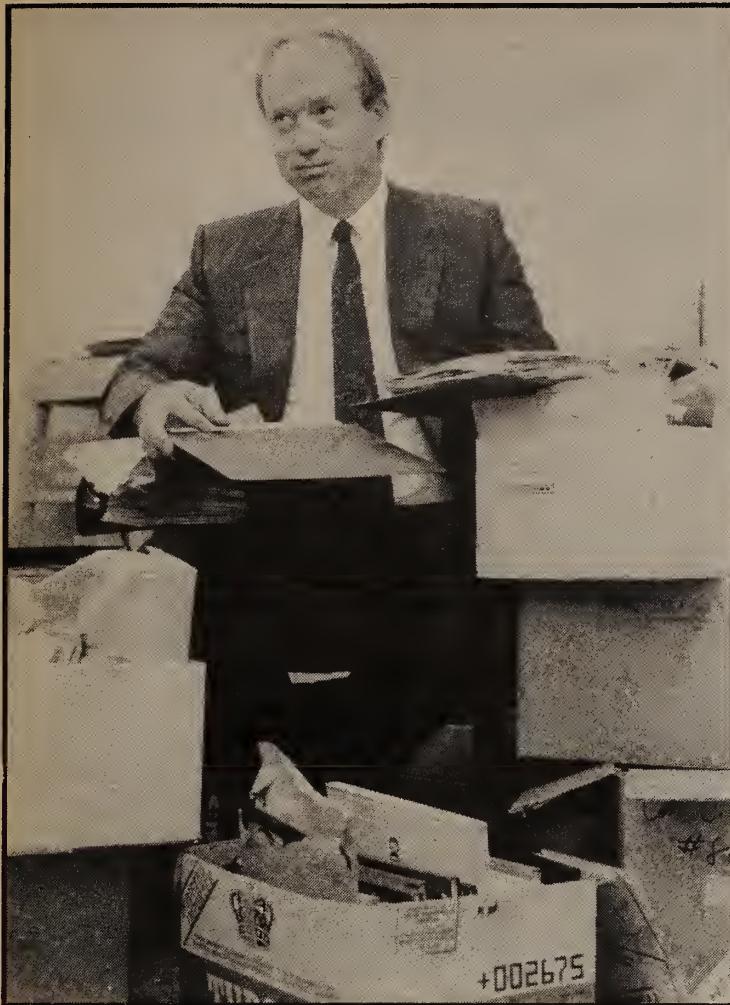
"If there were an ideal level of funding, it would be worth looking into," he said. However, he said he does not hold out much hope for the next couple of years because, "the demand on public funds is such that there is not a lot of extra funding."

MacKenzie said there should be a position available for an archivist at the college, but given the college's current funding situation, the chances of adding a new person to act as an archivist are minimal. He said this year's college operating grant was three per cent less than last year.

MacKenzie said that he will have to find a safe storage site for the materials before the summer is over and students return in September.

If, in the future, the college obtains funding to organize an archival centre, MacKenzie said it would probably be associated with the Learning Resource Centre.

Any such effort would need to be outlined in a cost proposal and would have to compete with numerous other projects for the same type of financial support, MacKenzie said.



John MacKenzie, vice-president of student development and human resources, examines historic college materials.

(Photo by Heather Ibbotson)

Goddard to retire after 24 years at Conestoga

By Gary Erb

After 24 years with Conestoga College, dean of technology John Goddard is looking forward to a retirement lifestyle that may range from community involvement to motorcycling.

Goddard, who leaves the college at the end of July, has held numerous positions with Conestoga since 1969, and said his retirement plans are "pretty open right now." But they include a return to his earlier love of flying — which he put on hold a few years ago because of a heart condition — as well as other hobbies and travel plans.

Retirement "will be a new experience, so I'll have to plan it as I go," he said.

Goddard originally joined the college as a technology teacher, and has held positions such as co-ordinator of the technology program and administrator of the Waterloo campus.

He was acting president for a period of seven months before becoming dean of the Doon and Cambridge campuses. He then became the dean of the Stratford and Clinton campuses, and later the Waterloo campus.

Goddard said he enjoyed being administrator at the Waterloo campus the most because the faculty were "a good bunch of people," adding that he did not mean people at other places have not been cooperative.

As Goddard reminisced about the years he has worked for Conestoga, he said solving organizational problems was one thing he found most frustrating.

With changing personnel, ideas are also constantly changing," something he said is not all bad. However, he said not every change improves things, and sometimes it seemed as though the college was "re-inventing the wheel."

Goddard said he "would sooner have worked here than anywhere else. It's been a good place to work."

Goddard was born on March 3, 1927, in Toronto and received his training at Humber Collegiate, Toronto and the University of Toronto.

After university, Goddard worked at several major companies before coming to Conestoga.

He said that in retirement, he is looking forward to doing some travelling, sailing, and getting back to flying small planes.

He is also hoping to learn more about computers and wishes to become involved in the community, working with the board of education.

Goddard said dealing with people has kept life interesting and spontaneous, something he does not wish to lose after retiring.

His travel plans include visiting

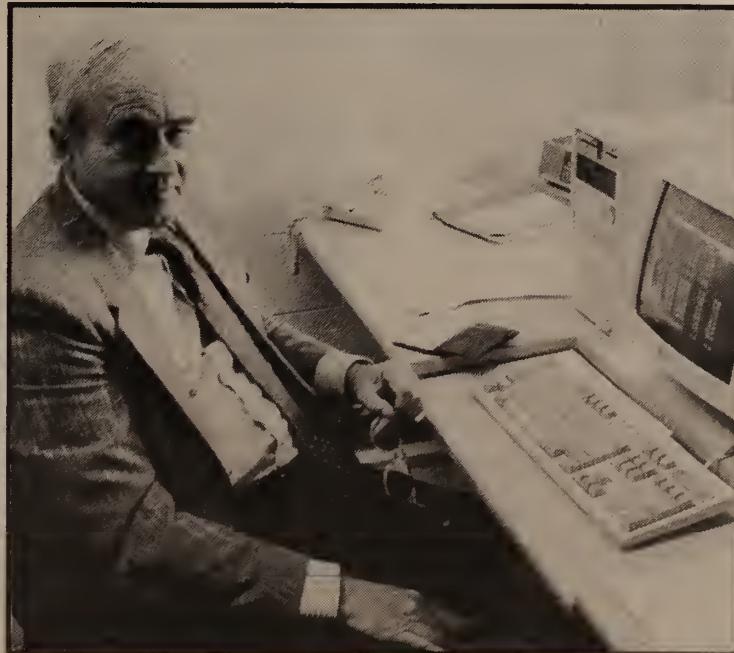
his three daughters, Cathy, Carolyn and Barbara, and seven grandchildren.

Cathy lives in Toronto, Carolyn in Red Deer, Alta. and Barbara in Sioux Lookout, Ont. Goddard said he looks forward to learning to ride a motorcycle he recently purchased, but mostly to flying, his favorite — though expensive — pastime.

Goddard developed a heart condition two years ago and because all pilots must pass a medical, flying was out of the question. However, since he had a pacemaker implanted, his pilot's licence has been reinstated, and he said he now is feeling fine.

He said he will also pursue sailing, since he now owns a 32-foot custom designed sailboat.

With hobbies and travel plans, Goddard said he is looking forward to retirement with his wife, Joan, and enjoying their home in Guelph.



John Goddard, dean of technology, works on his office computer.

(Photo by Gary Erb)

Cafeteria shortens hours

By K. Stephen Ross

The main cafeteria at Conestoga College's Doon campus has shortened its hours this summer due to a decrease in the student population.

During the regular school year when there are night classes, the cafeteria stays open until 9 p.m. With fewer night school students in the summer, they have decided to shut down at 3 p.m.

This is one of the main reasons for shutting down operations early, said Jackie Van Trigt, unit manager for Beaver Foods Ltd.

"We serve fewer entrees now

that the students are gone," said Van Trigt. "At lunch, we are only serving about 22 orders."

Because they are serving less meals does not mean they are any less busy, said Van Trigt, who has been with the college for 11 years. She believes people have the misconception that because student numbers are down, cafeteria staff have less to do.

"During the September-April schedule, there are about 30 people working in the cafeteria," said Van Trigt. "Now there are only about seven or eight — essentially, one person is doing the work of three or four."

Van Trigt received her training in Toronto and acted as chef manager at Sir Sanford Fleming College for two years before taking over here at the college. She said her customers are her primary concern.

Her managerial duties include supervising food preparation and administrative responsibilities. One of her jobs is ordering the food from Beaver Foods Ltd. The company runs on a four-week cycle with its meals. Van Trigt said this is not a strict

schedule.

"The schedule depends on the facilities of the cafeteria and what the customer wants. If the customer is ordering one dinner more often than another, I will put that on the menu twice, maybe three times during the cycle."

There used to be a suggestion board available, allowing students to speak directly to Van Trigt. This worked well, but was shut down by administration because they deemed it an inappropriate way of conducting customer response.

"The student would write an opinion on the board, good or bad, and I would respond to it using a red pen," she said. "It let me give the students an answer in writing and make it seem a little more personal."

Van Trigt said there is a suggestion box available now, but it is not in plain view of the customer. She is trying to have the board reinstated in time for returning students in September.

The working relationship has been good between Beaver Foods Ltd and Conestoga College, said Van Trigt. The two remain in constant contact and there have never been any major conflicts.

Said Van Trigt, "The students really like lasagna, chicken, pizza, and hot beef sandwiches. I try to get these on the menu as often as I see appropriate."

The inspection reports have always been good regarding the safety of the preparation area. "Protecting the customer comes first of all," she said. "You have to have money to stay afloat; therefore, your service level has to stay good. I will not serve anything that is dangerous and not good."

SPORTS

Summer sizzles at Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre

By K. Stephen Ross

The Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre is the place for sport enthusiasts this summer. From basketball to ice hockey, there is something for everyone to take part in.

Children between the ages of seven and 10 enjoyed pick-up hockey at the centre's ice surface for three weeks.

Beginning June 30, boys got together for two hours, two days a week to play shinny hockey. Shinny simply means dividing a group into two teams for a hockey game and a little relaxation.

The organizer of this junior shinny pick-up is Mary-Lynn Dedels, co-ordinator of customer membership services for the recreation centre. She said youth shinny

was developed due to public demand. "We had parent requests to offer this service," she said.

The program ran until July 17, bringing with it favorable results. "There was very good response in the numbers of skaters showing up at every session," said Dedels. "We had many returnees."

One of the players who enjoyed the sessions was Mark. Along with his mother Lynn (she refused to give their last name), they came to the rink every week. She said her son enjoyed the experience. "Mark is just learning," she said. "It gives him something to do over the summer."

Dedels was quick to point out this was not a league. It was similar to the adult shinny that is also played during the week. In both cases, no

supervision is necessary. However, parents were welcome to participate.

There was a \$5 admission fee per session, which included the use of a dressing room.

This was the first running of youth shinny at the recreation centre, said Dedels. "It was more of a trial," she said. "We will definitely be offering it again next summer, for a longer period of time."

For the children, there are several day camps, including a fun camp, an adventure camp, and a sports camp. With each camp, a computer option is available. Parents are welcome to register their children for the camps any time up to the Friday before the start of each session.

For youth and adults, there are hockey leagues currently running

for them to enjoy. The youths play every Saturday (except on weekend holidays) and the adults play two evenings a week.

At the recreation centre, various facilities are available for use during the summer. The soccer field, gymnasium and ice surface can be booked through Paula Feddema at 748-5220, Ext. 513.

Feddema said a refundable \$15 deposit is required for use of the gym. "If they don't show, they lose it," Feddema said.

For groups or organizations, Feddema will draw up a contract with the date and time of rental for the gym or arena.

Ball diamonds are also available for use through Feddema. Due to a contract between the recreation centre and the city of Kitchener,

students can only book the diamonds through Feddema between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. After 4 p.m., the diamonds can only be booked through the city's recreation office.

Facilities are also available for rental on a long-term basis, Feddema said. People can set up a contract for several bookings. "We require payment of the last two rental dates," Feddema said. "For example, the rental rate for the rink will be \$100 per hour; therefore, we would require the party to pay \$200 at the time of booking."

Dedels has noticed a slight decline in the use of the facilities this summer due to the recession but she said she is not worried. "We have been affected by the times but not as much as other areas," said Dedels. "We are holding our own."

ENTERTAINMENT



The Stoaters perform Celtic rock at the University of Guelph's annual community barbecue July 9.
(Photo by Troy Bridgeman)

U of G barbecue draws crowds

By Troy Bridgeman

Approximately 1,000 people were at the University of Guelph's annual community barbecue held July 9 outside the university centre.

The barbecue was organized for the public by Local 54 of the Central Student Association (CSA).

People dined on the traditionally-rare hip of beef, jumbo wieners, hamburgers, "veggie" burgers, salads and soft drinks.

Clowns, people in costumes and CSA volunteers delighted children with face painting, dunk tanks and balloons.

Entertainment consisted of national and international acts.

Opening the show was British folk artist Rory McCleod, who demonstrated his prowess on the harmonica, guitar and spoons.

With a sense of humor and a musical style reminiscent of Donovan and Nick Drake, McCleod performed original material.

"I play my own songs because it's the only time I get to hear them," he said.

McCleod's songs are autobiographical and reflect on his life experiences.

Lyrics from one song include,

"Shirley's her name. We call her our mom. I call my dad my dad. I feel like a prodigal son."

McCleod is on a tour with scheduled performances in Halifax, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

Following McCleod was a four-piece, Toronto acoustic group called the Lost Dakotas. The band lent their unique psychedelic-rock-a-billy and folk-rock style to classic rock standards like AC-DC's Back in Black and The Beatles' Helter Skelter. The Lost Dakotas, featuring front man Paul Dakota, also performed original tunes from their recently released album Last Train to Kipling.

One song was described by Dakota as a "new song, so new it still has that new song smell."

Headlining the barbecue was the Vancouver-based band, The Stoaters, who had hundreds of people of all ages dancing to their high-energy blend of traditional and contemporary Celtic rock.

With the stage draped in plaid and Scottish and Irish flags and the band dressed as bus drivers, sea captains, miners and highlanders, the Stoaters created an atmosphere charged with fun and a stage presence ripe with off-beat theatrics.

Women play the field in baseball movie

By Cara-Mae Hackett

Movie Review

A League of Their Own is a movie that runs you through a gamut of emotions and is a sure-fire box-office hit.

It stars Geena Davis and Lori Petty as farm girl sisters Dotti Hinson and Kit Keller. They live at home with their parents while Hinson's husband, Bob, is fighting in the Second World War.

The year is 1943 and the movie is based on the birth of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) which was designed to fill the gap in professional baseball when players marched off to war. The movie is dedicated to the real "baseball beauties" of the league.

Director Penny Marshall (*Big, Awakenings*) shows the chauvinism of the team owners, who entice fans with promotions such as "Catch a foul, get a kiss" and with uniforms which are designed more for the eyes of lusty males than to accommodate the needs of baseball players.

The baseball scenes are

believable and well-acted, especially "Queen of Diamonds" Hinson, considering Davis had no real experience with the game prior to taking this role.

A sarcastic talent scout, played by Jon Lovitz, finds Davis and Petty milking cattle on the farm and convinces them to try out for the league. Lovitz's character unfortunately disappears just as you are starting to enjoy him.

The women chosen for the league are subjected to harsh rules including no drinking and no men. They are also forced to enrol in charm and beauty school.

Tom Hanks stopped exercising and put on excess weight to believably play reforming alcoholic Jimmy Dugan, a has-been ball player who resents coaching a bunch of women.

The relationship between Dugan and Hinson is a pleasure to watch. It makes you long for the "good old days" when your big brother used to tease you.

Hinson and Keller are often at odds, Keller being jealous of big sister Dotti. There is also some friction between Mae (Madonna), Keller and Hinson.

Madonna plays a character known as "All the way Mae" and she is more believable than some of the characters that merely grate on the viewers' nerves (see the movie and look for a child too devilish to be believed).

Viewers follow the women of the Rockford Peaches through fights, fun, marriage, death, a world series pitting sister against sister, and a reunion.

Actresses in the reunion scenes strongly resemble the actresses portraying those characters when young. One had to watch the credits to be sure that they were different women.

As the credits rolled, no one left the theatre because they were watching a reunion of the real All American Girls Professional Baseball League.

A League of Their Own is playing at Fairway Cinemas in Kitchener.



From left, Starr and Nathan Campagnaro and Amber Bridgeman.
(Photo by Troy Bridgeman)